

Introduced by Senator Burton

August 27, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49—Relative to prevailing wage rates.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 49, as introduced, Burton. Prevailing wage rates: chartered cities.

Existing law generally requires the payment of the prevailing rate of per diem wages and the prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work to employees employed on public works projects that cost more than \$1,000. Existing law requires the Director of Industrial Relations to determine these wage rates and to provide these wage rates to an awarding body, as defined, that requests them.

This measure would reaffirm the intent of the Legislature for the prevailing wage law to apply to all projects subsidized with public funds, including the projects of chartered cities.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Legislature has declared that the payment of  
2 prevailing wages on public projects is a matter of statewide  
3 concern; and

4 WHEREAS, Payment of the prevailing rate of per diem wages  
5 to workers employed on public projects is necessary to attract the  
6 most skilled workers for the project and to ensure that work of the  
7 highest quality is performed on these projects; and

8 WHEREAS, Public works projects should never undermine the  
9 wage base in a community and the requirement that workers on  
10 public works projects be paid the prevailing rate of per diem wages

1 ensures that the local wage base is not lowered (Sec. 1, Ch. 892,  
2 Stats. 2002; Sec. 1, Ch. 868, Stats. 2002); and

3 WHEREAS, The Court of Appeal held in *City of Long Beach*  
4 v. Department of Industrial Relations (1 Cal.Rptr.3d 837 (2003  
5 Cal.App. Lexis 1050), that the state's prevailing wage law  
6 addresses matters of statewide concern and therefore applies to  
7 projects subsidized by all public agencies, including chartered  
8 cities; and

9 WHEREAS, The state's system for promoting quality  
10 apprenticeship training in the construction trades depends upon  
11 the incentives provided by the prevailing wage law; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature reaffirms its intent for the  
15 state prevailing wage law to apply broadly to all projects  
16 subsidized with public funds, including the projects of chartered  
17 cities, as the law addresses important statewide concerns; and be  
18 it further

19 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
20 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

